

Porter Wednesday Sept 13th

My dear Friend,

My dear friend, I have just been conversing with Mr. Loring upon the fact that the "come-outers," - Abby Kelly's converts in Western New York half converted, all will convert may be convert till they have stood fire, too high standing to be tolerant, & too young in the cause to have suffered persecution through to have learned mercy, or felt the need of justice, having come to the point where they must choose between good & evil, are being pushed by Abby's impudence in attending that convention of tools & hypocrites, & the "Columns" of those present there, in the Liberator & Liberty Press, - I am in favor of one standard for her to circulate / Made out somewhat in reference to themselves. I have done what I can to do right in the Liberator. Your excellent article brought us front to front with the Standard. I have given more than I had expected Lewis Goffman ^{must be} took out of memory in the midst of the Standard, if we will but begin, & I think it very necessary - were it only to save ability, who is made an object then a woman, from the consequences of her own delightful unconsciousness of the existence of evil. What I want is, that without descending to gratify any malicious wretches by pleading at their bar, you should copy liberally from this week's Liberator into the selected columns of the Standard. The article "where we are" - badly written as it is, (he is a fool says Baltimore, who tries to say all that can be said) will yet satisfy the come-outers, as to what they, true or false believe to be true in position, while it puts the Liberator in the

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proper attitude of standing by the American Society.
I have crowded too much for intelligibility ^{proving} in the links
of various parts ^{of yours} in the first part of mine; but the
last part is the important & intelligible part. The article
"the highest ground," will clear their minds, judging
by the effect it had on Abby's. "The Nominating con-
vention at Buffalo," written before I had the opportu-
nity of consulting Abby, - which I told her not to attend
pictures to the certainty of this being misrepresentation -
I have a chance to read to her carefully this
morning. She says it is every word correct. That
I think would do good. The "Hints to Electors" may
put some political ones upon a better track. I than
Stephen Foster please & Abby's careful ^{overlooking} approach of
its utter independence, & eagerly circulation of its intol-
erant construction, would screw them to. Stephen
has not stateliness, excellent as he is, to do the cause he
loves much harm. But Abby needs something definite
to ^{wh} refer the subscribers she has got. The leave of paper
piece of Edmund's would be good - so would some attack
upon some pro-slavery paper which calls you a clay
man, just like the one upon ^{the} Commercial Advertiser
(was it?) in the last paper but one. An explanation
of your position - formally, would not do so well, though
that is what Abby would be glad to have. She misunder-
stood you, it is true all Western & Central N.Y. will
unless there is more definition; - a repeated definition:
which is not, to any thinking good, unless in the shape
of an attack. If a standard of this kind should seem
to you worth the making up, I should like to have
500 extra copies for Abby, supposing they do not cost
more than 5 or 6 dollars. I will send the money imme-

shally, if you think it worth while; I do want very
much to have the good work you have done
^{getting us into line,} followed up. It will done the standard I
think, if it is followed up. Oh come I would greatly
prefer that you should do this exact work your
own way, in the editorial columns of the Standard;
but I thought that possibly you might think
that the "Jeune ne valait pas la chandelle" when it
came to playing it in the sacred columns though
it might be permitted in the profane ones. If you
conclude to do it in any way, do drop me a line
immediately, that I may not have this side of the
Liberator distributed till some extras are struck off,
to which we can put next weeks outside. Whichever
of the two papers does it, will be greatly benefited by
it; as for the cause sake they ought, so good - so
indispensable a work is this for the cause. I have
watched the progress of mens minds as expressed in the
resolutions of these meetings so much that I feel the
necessity of there seeing the terminus of that track.
I feel & know, that the only strong position is the
hill-top nearest heaven. No enemy's post commands
it, & the human soul has resources to conquer
from thence, if it dare to use all its resources. But
I cannot willingly see people screened up to the
adoption of what they will be likely to run back
from, as Phelps did when he framed the first resolu-
tion of this Society as a screen, & not upon conviction.
~~Wm. W. Phelps~~ I think a good work is done to those

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honest Liberty-party-inclined minds, when they
are informed that they are not occupying
the highest ground - but are merely leaning
a pro-slavery government. It will take away
the strongest argument. It will dispense the power
of the metaphor, & the charm of the word "high!"
The highest state of mind is that which is patient
with its neighbor who professes to have attained a
greater height. I get these people, ^{many my honest Stephens,} think they can
pick pride out of superior attainments; while the
truth seems to be that there is no attainment to be
compared with having one's face the right way -
walking peacefully in the procession, ^(what I mean by peacefully I dare say the ex. com. in N.Y.) not disturbed
though all the thousand causes of confusion come at once
& create a necessity for walking right over a
a good many things & persons, that have
not sense or good feeling to do their best for good
order. Mr. Loring will write to you, after
he has seen the Liberator. Till he does, he cannot
at all tell what to advise. I assured him that
he ought not to say a word favorable to this ^{of all} ^{plans}
he did not think the present a time to wage a
little more his habitual view of what is best. as
I should express so strong a conviction of the
necessity, that a single word ^{from your} might go further
in advice than he meant it to do. I have had
a vast number of letters & hints from
Whittier - the talk in the cause has been wonderful
& I cannot conceal my satisfaction from the

Stephens (convinced)
many
call
and
not
practical
plans

distressed individuals who have been used by
Liberty Party, without knowing it. - who have
created ^{it for its "coming out,"} without charge ^{it with its dignities.} & when it is so easy
to charge down hill! John & Fuller has just
returned from a visit to Weld & his wife. They
gave him he says, "a truly apostolic reception." Pray
don't think I would speak to him. I was told this
casually by a lady whose name I did not know, at
the A.S. office, but one who has some acquaintance
with his last wife, as I understood her. I have not
seen him since the "Lifting in" letters he published
in the Mass. Abolitionist. Garrison & family are
slightly better. Still his time is all occupied necessarily
in the care of them & he is much worn down by
watching. It is a great pity he cannot be in town
just now. I shall ~~not~~ have time to finish
sheet, which I congratulate you upon.

With regards to all I am
yours truly W.D. Chapman

G. Sumner

No 1. The fungus *Aspergillus* *terrestris*
is cultivated

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MS. A. 4. 1. p. 65